

CLEPHAN (Jas.)

The Three Mornings

xxxxx





17.

The Three Warnings:

OR,

FACTS AND FIGURES

OF THE

CHOLERA EPIDEMICS

OF

GATESHEAD.

BY JAMES CLEPHAN.



Gateshead:

THE OBSERVER OFFICE.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE: CHARNLEY, ETC.

LONDON: CHARLES MITCHELL.

1854.

GATESHEAD :
PRINTED BY WILLIAM DOUGLAS.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Facts and Figures of the Three Epidemics of Cholera in Gateshead, presented in the following pages, have been ascertained by personal inquiry and observation ; assisted by public and private records, to which the courtesy of official and other gentlemen has given the Compiler obliging access. In placing them before the medical and general public in a collected form and narrow compass, he may be permitted, although a layman, to accompany them with the expression of his opinion that the Cholera would never be Epidemic amongst us, were our habitations not impure. The Planet on which we are placed is made to whirl through space at an immeasurable distance from other Worlds, while we perversely overcrowd ourselves together on its surface, and hide ourselves from the air of Heaven in our narrow cribs, in immediate neighbourhood with decomposing matter and foul emanations, which ought rather to be at once banished from our midst, and not suffered to accumulate until the outbreak of Pestilence ; when, too late, it is, by hundreds of cart-loads, hurried out of our borders. We practically confess, by our instant resort to such means in the agony of fear and alarm, that we are not unacquainted with the secondary causes, at least, of Cholera, its primary origin alone being yet a mystery. We know not how it comes into existence, but we do know the conditions necessary to its malignant spread, and to its becoming Epidemic, if not also Contagious. These conditions we may produce in hamlet or city—in our Bourn Moors or our Pipewellgates, on our Windmill Hills or in our Sandgates, in our Wrekentons or our Cloggers' Entries ; while, happily, in the crowded town, and for the humblest of our population, we may, by the avoidance of such conditions, secure immunity from the Asiatic scourge. The clean, well-ventilated, not overcrowded portion of New Gateshead, was a land of Goshen in 1853, where there was neither Death nor Disease, while, all around, there was Infection and Mortality ; and so, likewise, were a whole town pure and wholesome, it would, under the blessing of Heaven, be free from Epidemics.

6, Catherine-terrace, Gateshead,
May, 1854.

THE

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

of the

The Cholera in Gateshead.

1831-32.

THE first appearance of Asiatic cholera on the Tyne is commonly assigned to the month of December, 1831. There is, however, the following entry in the register of St. Mary's parish, Gateshead :— "Buried, October 29, 1831, aged about 45, Oswald Reay, of All Saints', Newcastle ;" with also this note, in the handwriting of the Rev. G. C. Abbs, then curate :—"The first supposed case of cholera in England." A still earlier case, and the first of which the writer can find any record, is that of "a steel runner," of "the village of Team, one mile and a half above Gateshead," who, in the beginning of the month of August, after drunkenness and long exposure to rain, was seized with malignant cholera and died.*

The first two recognized cholera burials in Gateshead occur under date December 16. One of these was Mary Hymers, or Hindmarsh, a rag-gatherer of depraved habits, living in the Hawk-entry, Bottle-bank, on the Pipewellgate slope, to whom Mr. Henry Brady was called on the 15th. In the other case, the patient, James Morgan, a blacksmith, lived at Springwell, and was brought into Gateshead parish after death. There was then a pause until Christmas-eve, when (on the 24th) a second Gateshead case occurred in Pipewellgate, in the person of Elizabeth Thompson, *alias* Hales. The date of her burial is Christmas day; and this case is rapidly succeeded by others,† until the abatement of the epidemic in the Spring of 1832. In July, the "red cross" reappears on the register, and it does not vanish until the month of November.

The total number of cholera burials in St. Mary's parish was 225. Deducting 3 (two from Newcastle and one from Hebburn), 222

* Letter of Dr. Alexander to Mr. T. M. Greenhow, inserted by the latter gentleman in his work on Cholera, (1832).

† "On the 25th, about one o'clock, we were assailed by a third and fourth example of the disease; and before the next morning, at ten o'clock very considerable numbers had fallen sacrifices to its pestilential ravages. Within a space of twelve hours, it spread itself over a diameter of two miles."—(Letter from Mr. Brady to Mr. Greenhow.) On the Low Fell, Gateshead, on the 25th and 26th, there were ten cases, four of them occurring in two families, living near Morgan's father, to whose cottage Morgan's corpse had been brought after death. There were eight deaths on the Fell up to January 2, and then the cholera ceased until August. Of the eight, seven occurred in the cottages near Morgan's, and in the two families of Worley and Soulsby. "Worley's family," Mr. Greenhow was informed, "were very poor, and destitute of both food and proper clothing. Soulsby was poor, and kept a disorderly public house." Three of the Worleys and four of the Soulsbys died.

remain—the number inscribed on the pillar in St. Edmund's cemetery. There were also 12 cholera burials in St. John's, making the total number of the Gateshead burials 237. The burials per day (exclusive of those from Newcastle and Hebburn) were as under :—

16 December, 1831	2	27	1
25	1	28	1
26	4	29	2
27	19	30	1
28	20	1 August	1
29	8	4	1
30	6	5	1
31	8	6	3
1 January, 1832	5	9	1
2	5	10	1
3	5	11	1
4	4	12	1
5	6	13	1
6	8	14	2
7	6	15	4
8	6	16	3
9	2	17	2
10	3	18	2
11	1	19	3
12	2	20	3
13	2	21	2
15	1	22	2
16	1	23	4
17	1	24	3
18	3	25	2
20	1	26	3
22	1	27	1
24	2	28	1
25	1	31	1
29	1	2 September	2
2 February	1	3	1
11	1	4	2
27	2	5	2
28	1	7	4
1 March	1	8	5
3	1	9	1
25	1	10	1
6 July	1	11	1
15	1	12	2
16	1	13	1
17	3	21	1
22	1	3 October	1
24	1	22	1
25	1	5 November	1
26	2		
			— 234
	Males	114	
	Females	120	

The localities from which the bodies were brought for burial are stated in the register with more or less precision. In a subsequent table (see appendix), they are entered in the chronological order observed by the mortality in the progress of the epidemic; and the date of each burial from each locality is given.

1849.

On Thursday, the 4th of January, 1849, a tramp, said to be from Edinburgh, arrived at Gateshead, and tarried at Williams's lodging-house, Pipewellgate, then containing 24 beds, with two persons to each bed. The stranger manifested symptoms of diarrhoea, and Williams himself was subsequently attacked. Both died on the 8th. On the morning of the 9th, when Dr. Barkus, then medical-officer, called at the lodging-house at 5 o'clock, he found the two men dead. A third person was ill in the house; but the fact was not named to the Doctor; and by 8 o'clock the same morning there was a third death.

Such are the facts, as stated in the *Gateshead Observer*, January 13, 1849.

The civil register of deaths, instituted in 1837, seems to tell a somewhat different tale, as the following extracts show:—

January 8. Catherine Carr, aged 45, wife of a seaman, Pipewellgate, diarrhoea.

9. William Williams, aged 57, shoemaker, Pipewellgate, cholera.

10. A man, name and calling unknown, Pipewellgate, supposed of Asiatic cholera.

10. Bridget M'Graw, aged 60, widow, Pipewellgate, cholera.

Dr. Barkus's recollection of the matter is, that the stranger was his first patient, though Williams was the first who died.

The disease spread rapidly in Pipewellgate. The number of deaths was 18 by the 23d of the month, up to which day there had been no cholera mortality in any other part of Gateshead. Deaths then began to occur elsewhere; and, with longer or shorter intervals, the mortality continued until nearly the end of the year.

It was not until August that the rural district of Gateshead was visited by the epidemic. Its first victim in Wrekenton was Edward Aims, aged 15, the son of a piper, who died on the 11th of that month.

The total number of deaths in the year, in all Gateshead, from cholera and diarrhoea, was 186, the mortality closing, as it had begun, in Pipewellgate.

The village of Wrekenton, lying on both sides of the boundary line between Gateshead and Lamesley, and its neighbour, Eighton Banks, were wellnigh decimated.*

* In a report made to Mr. Rawlinson in 1849, and subsequently laid by that gentleman before the General Board of Health, it is stated that "the total number of deaths was 120, being about a sixth of the whole of the population." This is an error. 61 died on the Gateshead side of the boundary, and 47 on the Lamesley side, in the two villages of Wrekenton and Eighton Banks, making a total mortality of 108. In 1851, there were 890 inhabitants in that part of Gateshead called Wrekenton, and 1,914 in Lamesley, comprising Eighton Banks and part of Wrekenton. In a subsequent page, there is a table showing the cholera mortality of the mining and agricultural poor-law union of Chester-le-Street, of which Lamesley is a member.

The epidemic of 1849 was mainly fed by Pipewellgate, the Union Workhouse, and Wrekenton—these three contributing two-thirds of the mortality.

The southern or rural district of Gateshead, occupied by the Fell and Wrekenton, was principally unenclosed until the present century, sprinkled over with thatched cottages, studded with pit and quarry heaps, and "a common receptacle for all kinds of vagrants." (*The Pitman's Pay*, by Thomas Wilson, Esq., of Fell House.) It is still haunted by muggers, tinkers, beggars, reapers, &c.

"The houses visited by the epidemic occupy high and airy ground, and are mostly comfortable cottages; but the locality is undrained, and some few of the houses are (or have been) resorted to by wayfarers, and are in a filthy condition. It was here that Fever broke out in our parish; and here, again, we have Cholera. Unobservant minds are struck with wonder when they hear of epidemics in villages standing upon lofty eminences; but we see nothing perplexing in such outbreaks. They do not controvert the doctrine that overcrowding and filth, if not the causes, are conditions without which such causes, whatever they may be, are inoperative. The focus of disease, in this case, is the Irish colony in the midst of the native population. Strangers dropped off, and little was thought of it; but when the villagers were attacked, there was then a panic."—(*Gateshead Observer*, September 16, 1849.)

The range of houses where the cholera was most fatal is not more than a quarter of a mile in length. In the 158 houses occurred 110 deaths. The Lunatic Asylum, wherein 20 men and women died, was closely beset on either side by crowded and infected lodging-houses; and the keeper and his son-in-law were of the number that perished. The settled inhabitants rose up at last, in a body, and drove the tinkers and other vagrants out of the village.

Wilkinson, a pitman, who lived in a clean cottage surrounded by Irish tinkers, was overpowered every morning by the stench which issued from his neighbours' hovels on the opening of the doors. James and Robert Wilkinson, father and son, both died.

Mr. Francis Bennett, of Gateshead, surgeon, in a report which he made to Mr. Rawlinson, Superintending Inspector of the General Board of Health, at the close of 1849, stated that there were rooms in the worst part of the village "with direct openings into ashpits," and that "the only houses drained were in the Lamesley district." He described the migratory population as "living huddled together, four or five families in a house, with horses, asses, dogs, and in one case pigs, the ashes and other accumulations being allowed to collect in a corner of a room; and not only did the inmates behave much in the same way as Mr. Schorey mentions in his report on the lodging-houses of Gateshead,* but females, besides males and children, often came

* "Gateshead contains 26 common lodging-houses. They are situated, for the most part, in low and crowded neighbourhoods. Of the keepers, 17 are Irish, 7 English, and one German; and they comprise, in the whole, 74 rooms. Many of the dormitories are little better than hovels, whether as regards size, cleanliness, ventilation, or drainage, and are calculated to engender disease in its most malignant form. This opinion I have seen fully borne out during the prevalence of the late epidemic. I have had opportunities of witnessing, in rooms not measuring more than fourteen feet square, from 15 to 20 men, women, and children lodged—and the women with nothing more than a shift, which, from length of time and

out into the lane, to obey the calls of nature, in a state of complete nudity."

Mr. Bennett adds:—"For two or three days previous to the outbreak of cholera, muggers had been arriving from Ludworth and Easington Lane, infected localities. The disease soon spread to the well-ordered and clean people. The mortality was very great, nearly the whole of those attacked with Asiatic cholera dying—probably six-sevenths. About half of the whole population were affected, more or less, with diarrhoea, &c. The cholera at Wrekenton need not be matter of surprise. Here we had overcrowded, ill-ventilated, damp, dirty houses, containing human beings as dirty as the animals with which they were living, and as nearly reduced to their state by their immodest habits; these localities being as bad, or nearly so, as in a densely-populated town, and as favourable for the development of cholera and spread of contagious disease. There was also frequent arrival of individuals from infected places." Moreover, "although the village of Wrekenton stands very high, the part to which the pestilence was most confined, and where it was the most virulent, is comparatively low. On the east and south, the ground is considerably above some of the houses; and immediately opposite, on the west, is a field of a very boggy nature."

Annexed is a chronological table, similar to that of 1831-32, showing the progress of the mortality, from cholera and diarrhoea, in the whole of Gateshead, in 1849:—

	C.	D.		C.	D.
8 January, 1849...	0	1	1 February	5	0
9	1	0	2	3	0
10	2	1	5	1	0
11	1	0	6	2	1
15	2	0	8	1	0
16	2	0	9	2	0
17	1	0	10	2	0
22	4	0	11	1	0
23	8	0	13	1	0
25	1	0	15	2	0
27	4	0	23	2	0
28	1	1	27	1	0
29	2	0	26 March	1	0
30	5	0	1 May	1	0
31	5	0	3	1	0

the filthy habits of the wearer, had the appearance more of oilcloth than the under-garment of a female. They were all breathing an atmosphere pestilential in the extreme. Added to this, unrestrained sexual intercourse took place in the presence of the youth of both sexes, not a screen of any kind intervening. Indeed, in my experience, I have witnessed, along with other officers, sights of this kind such as would disgrace a savage life, but which, to the inmates of these dens, from familiarity and their low standard of morality, went unnoticed, except in the shape of vulgar jest or ribald remark. * * * To place the common lodging-house under proper regulations, with regard to space, ventilation, drainage, and cleanliness, would tend to lessen disease in those densely-peopled neighbourhoods."—(Report by Mr. Schorey to Mr. Rawlinson.)

Since this report was made, the Common Lodging Houses Act has come into operation, and has verified the prediction of our intelligent Superintendent of the Borough Police.

	C.	D.		C.	D.
9 May	1	0	20 September	3	0
13	0	1	21	3	0
17 June	0	1	22	2	1
11 August	1	0	23	2	0
12	2	0	24	2	0
14	1	0	25	3	0
15	0	1	26	3	0
20	1	0	27	2	0
21	1	0	28	0	1
25 August	1	0	29	1	0
28	2	0	30	3	0
5 September	1	0	1 October	2	0
6	1	0	4	1	0
9	5	0	5	4	0
10	2	0	6	1	1
11	5	1	7	1	0
12	4	0	8	1	0
13	6	0	15	0	1
14	6	0	6 November	0	1
15	8	0	16	0	1
16	4	0	17	0	1
17	6	0	26 December	0	1
18	8	1	17	0	1
19	3	0			
Cholera			168		
Diarrhoea			18		
Total			186		
Males			100		
Females			86		
Total ..			186		

1853.

THE third visitation on the banks of the Tyne commenced in the month of August, 1853, near its close—the first three deaths occurring in the following order :—

August 30.—Newcastle, George Ellison, No. 3, Lisle-street.

August 31.—Gateshead, Mary Tait, No. 27, Victoria-street.

Septem. 1.—Bill Quay (Heworth), Elizabeth Handy.

In 1831, and again in 1849, it was in the Pipewellgate district that the Gateshead epidemic broke out. In 1853, the earliest death took place in a part of the town called the "Barn Close," which was an open field when the cholera first appeared, in 1831. In 1849, two deaths occurred in the locality. The register simply states, as to one of them (a child dying of diarrhoea), that its residence was in "Barn Close," without naming the street. The other resided in Grosvenor-street—a street then unfinished, and which first appears on the poor rate in the year of the second epidemic. It was at a still later period that Victoria-street came upon the rate.

The houses in the Barn Close, originally built each for the occupation of a single family, have since, to a considerable extent, been converted into "tenement property"—that is, have been let to more families than one—although not adapted to divided occupation; and Mary Tait was one of 30 persons inhabiting the same house—six rooms (two of them cellars) being occupied by five families.

The census of the street in which this woman died was taken by the writer on the 25th of October, accompanied by Mr. R. H. Wilson, medical officer, and Mr. William Hall, borough surveyor; when they found that 114 families, comprising 488 members, were occupying 160 rooms in 33 houses; that 17 of the inhabitants had died in the first month of the epidemic;* and that of these 17, 10 were inmates of cellars.†

Another locality of recent origin, unknown before 1849, is New Gateshead. Here, in the time of the epidemic, it was remarked with popular wonder, that while in one part of the district there was much

* Including one who died from inflammation of the lungs; and a child of Mary Tait, removed on the death of its mother.

† One word about Victoria-street, so named in honour of our Queen, in whose reign it has been built. Where Victoria-street now stands there was formerly a stone-quarry. Into this quarry, when worked out, town-refuse was allowed to be "shot" at so much per load. When the cavity was filled up, the street was built, and it has never been paved. "The law allowed it"—so houses were clapped down upon the site, and let off, without regard to the health of the inmates or of the community. When poor Mary Tait was a living woman, she was one of thirty individuals, divided into five families, who occupied the same house. The correspondent of the *Times*, who, being at an inn with his wife, astonished Boniface by asking for a "dressing room," complains to our contemporary that "hotelkeepers usually seem to think that gentlemen and their wives herd together at home like two pigs in one sty!" We cannot bring ourselves to weep over the miseries of this unhappy husband, doomed by coarse and vulgar innkeepers to dress in the same room with his wife; but if that be a discomfort

disease and mortality, in the other there was none. The inhabitants were all of the industrial class; the Whittle Dean water, which had been accused as a cause of the cholera, was used in every house alike; the healthy portion, built before a sewer was constructed, had open privies, while the other had waterclosets, (but also ashpits). There was, however, this difference:—Where there was no sickness, every family had a separate house. Where the epidemic raged, every house, on an average, was occupied by from three to four families.

Of this district, too, the census has been taken since the epidemic (on the 28th of November). In the uninfected moiety (built by Messrs. Hawks, Crawshay, & Sons, for their workpeople), there were two cottages empty and nineteen occupied, the total number of the inhabitants being 130, or about 7 per cottage. In the other moiety, 26 houses (comprising 157 occupied rooms) were inhabited by 91 families and 417 individuals, giving 16 inmates to a house. In the former portion of the district, there was but one death—that of an infant from diarrhoea, removed thither on the death of its mother and sister elsewhere. In the latter, there were 17 deaths:—13 from choleraic disease, one from jaundice, one from liver disease, one from scarlatina. The seventeenth was the stillborn child of a woman who died from cholera in the moment of parturition. The whole of New Gateshead had its origin in an honourable desire in the founders to provide improved dwellings for the working classes; but the self-contained portion is less crowded and better-ventilated than the other—is occupied by a superior class of tenants—and is kept in better condition.

The writer being more than ever led, by the circumstances of the last epidemic, to suspect that overcrowding was a powerful predisposing cause†—(such overcrowding, closeness, and foulness being commonly accompanied by inferior habits)—he has been at considerable pains to trace out the exact locality of every death, that this suspicion might be brought to the test of actual fact. In this respect, official records, as

and an offence, what shall we say of the life of Hugh and Mary Tait, and their 28 fellow-inhabitants of one small house! Two underground rooms, partially lighted by sunken windows, were inhabited by two families. A single family occupied the floor on a level with the street. The remaining inmates, the deceased being one, possessed the upper rooms. There is a common ashpit in the yard; and the "monster nuisance," so justly denounced at the last meeting of the Gateshead Board of Health, and which was reported by the town-surveyor some twelve or eighteen months ago, is as near to Mary Tait's as to the memorialist's residence in Mulgrave-terrace. Bearing in mind the nature of the site on which the street is built—a mass of loose and porous rubbish—the imagination may readily conceive its present condition—may imagine the state of the *sponge* on which these houses stand. One of the tenants—a respectable and intelligent young woman—calling our attention to a nuisance in her own house, where the liquid contents of a neighbour's privy and ashpit oozed copiously through a wall, and invaded her dwelling, bitterly and truly remarked that "it was enough to breed a pestilence!" Such is Victoria-street, which has risen into existence since the epidemic of 1832, and taken precedence of Pipewellgate in giving birth to the epidemic of 1853. —*Gateshead Observer* (October 1, 1853).

† The Earl of Shaftesbury has since said, in a letter to the *Times* (April 15, 1854), "Overcrowding is more fatal to health and life than defective drainage or water supply."

shown by the tables of 1832 and 1849, are very imperfect, mainly owing to the want of correct information in the individuals on whose authority the entries are made by the proper officers. With the assistance of the medical men and the registrar, and by inquiries on the spot, the whole mortality of 1853 has been traced home, and the result is elsewhere given in a tabular form. Mr. Hall has also prepared a map of Gateshead, on which he has thus (and with the assistance of Mr. R. H. Wilson) been enabled to mark, for the information of the Commissioners of Inquiry sent down by the Crown, every fatal footprint of the pestilence, and to point out its favourite haunts.

We must not look, however, to locality alone, for the explanation of cholera sickness and mortality. When a subtle, secret influence is present, to which a whole community is exposed, and by which all are more or less affected, personal predispositions—ill-health, disease, intemperance, or other causes—may give it victims among the comfortable, well-housed portion of the population. None are secure. Still, as a rule, the cholera has been the close companion in Gateshead of sanitary neglect, and has found its prey almost wholly among the humbler classes.

Of the 433 persons who died, chiefly in September and October, 1853, the great bulk were so obscure in station as not to be members of families contributing directly to the relief of the poor.

The number of direct ratepayers in Gateshead is 1,930. The number that died of the epidemic was but 10.

If we assume the number of each family to be 5, this (multiplying thereby the 1,930) will give a total of 9,650. The number of persons that died, direct ratepayers and members of families of direct ratepayers, was but 29.

The rateable value of the property of all Gateshead is £54,182. The rateable value of the property occupied by the families of the 29 does not amount to £400.

Several, too, of the 29 dwelt in the worst-conditioned localities of the town.

It should be observed, that in some cases where epidemic death occurred, the disease was imported, and is not chargeable upon the locality. In Easton-court, for example, a young man fell ill, who had come over from Newcastle to bring intelligence of the death of a relative in that town from cholera. His sister followed, to nurse him where he lay; and they both died—the only deaths in the court. So in Innis's-court:—the only death in that locality was in the person of a woman who had quitted Newcastle on losing her husband by the pestilence.

Cases were frequent in which more members than one of a family died. It has come under the writer's observation that in 39 instances two members, and in 12 instances three, were carried off during (and nearly the whole of them by) the epidemic, making altogether 114 individuals, or more than a fourth of the total mortality.

The number of deaths per day, from all causes, from the commencement to the close of the cholera mortality of 1853, are given in the

following table. It will be observed that the virulence of the epidemic covered little more space than a single month.

	C.	D.	ETC.		C.	D.	ETC.
31 August	1	0	2	1 October	9	1	2
1 September ...	0	0	1	2	4	2	1
2	1	2	1	3	1	0	1
3	1	0	1	4	1	0	1
4	0	0	3	5	2	0	4
5	2	2	2	6	0	1	1
6	1	0	1	7	2	0	1
7	3	0	2	8	1	0	1
8	2	1	4	9	1	1	3
9	5	1	1	10	0	0	3
10	8	0	3	11	1	0	1
11	9	2	2	12	1	0	2
12	17	1	1	13	2	0	0
13	17	1	3	14	1	0	0
14	31	1	6	15	0	1	4
15	37	2	0	16	1	0	3
16	30	0	9	17	0	0	0
17	25	2	4	18	0	0	0
18	25	4	4	19	0	0	3
19	16	3	3	20	2	0	2
20	14	4	4	21	0	1	2
21	21	1	2	22	0	0	0
22	11	3	8	23	0	0	1
23	14	1	2	24	1	0	0
24	12	0	7	25	0	0	2
25	22	2	3	26	0	0	3
26	8	1	4	27	0	0	1
27	10	1	4	28	0	1	1
28	2	1	5	29	0	1	2
29	4	0	1	30	0	1	4
30	3	0	0	31	0	0	3
Total	352	36	93	Total	30	10	52

There were five other deaths from cholera, subsequent to the month of October, as follows :—

November 1. Pipewellgate Banks	1
“ 5. Pipewellgate (Blue Bell-entry)	1
“ St. Edmund's-place	1
“ 7. Blackwall.....	1
“ 11. Pipewellgate (Tyne-entry)	1

Thus, then, Pipewellgate, which gave precedence to Victoria-street in August, closed in November the epidemic of 1853—the total epidemic mortality being, in 73 days, 387 from cholera and 46 from diarrhoea :—together, 433, (198 being males, and 235 females).

Some portion, also, of the mortality from other causes (occupying the third column in the table) must be chargeable on the epidemic. 63 per month was the ordinary mortality of Gateshead in the year prior to the last outbreak. The total number of deaths in November of 1853 was 64; and in December, 61. A third, therefore, of the mortality of September, or thereabouts, ascribed to other than choleraic causes, may fairly be transferred to the epidemic—making the total sacrifice, from preventible disease, 463.

On one single day in September—the most fatal day of the pestilence—39 men, women, and children perished. Cholera bore undisputed sway. Death held its hand in every other form, leaving the epidemic sole master of the field.

POPULATION (1851) AND MORTALITY (1853).

THE parish of Gateshead, comprising the ecclesiastical districts of St. Mary and St. John, was divided in 1851, in taking the census, into 23 portions, as under :—

1. Bounded on the N. by the Tyne; W., the Team rivulet; S., Hexham road and Pipewellgate street; S.E., a path from the Hexham road to the Rabbit banks, and thence to the railway station (now the railway workshops); E., stairs W. of Wardman's Houses, and Bridge street.

2. Bounded on the N. by Bailey chare (or Half Moon lane); W., Victoria street; S., Hexham road; E., West street.

3. Bounded on the E. by Victoria street; S., Hexham road; W., footpath from Bensham to the Rabbit banks; N., the railway.

4. Lying W. of Union row and S. of Hexham road to the Team, comprising Bensham.

5. Bounded on the W. by the stairs W. of Wardman's Houses; S., Bailey chare; E., lane from Bailey chare to Pipewellgate; N., Pipewellgate street.

6. Bounded on the N. by Pipewellgate; W., lane from Pipewellgate to Bailey chare; E., High street, Church street, and Bridge street; S., Bailey chare.

7. Bounded on the N. by Bailey chare; W., West street; S., Ellison street; E., High street.

8. Bounded on the N. by Ellison street; W., West street; S., Jackson street; E., High street. (The foregoing districts make up the West Ward of Gateshead.)

9. Bounded on the N. by the Tyne; W., Bridge street, and a lane from Hillgate, W. of Abbot's Ironworks, to Oakwellgate and East street; S., Hillgate street and Park lane; E., Hawks's railway.

10. Bounded on the N. by the Tyne and Park lane; E., Heworth; S., Sunderland road; W., Hawks's railway.

11. Bounded on the N. by Park street; W., High street; S., Park lane; E., East street.

12. Bounded on the N. by Oakwellgate chare and Easton street; W., High street; S., Park street; E., East street.

13. Bounded on the N. by Cannon street and Church street; W., High street; S., Oakwellgate chare; E., Oakwellgate.

14. Bounded on the N. by Hillgate street; W. Church street; S., Cannon street; E., lane from Oakwellgate to the coal staith in Hillgate.

15. Bounded on the N. by the lane from Oakwellgate to the coal staith in Hillgate; W., Oakwellgate; S., Easton street; E., East street, and lane from Oakwellgate to Hillgate, W. of Abbot's works. (This district completes the East Ward.)

16. Bounded on the N. by Hexham road; E., by Union row; W., by High West street; S., by open country lying between the town and the Low Fell.

17. W. side of Brunswick street, Cramer Dykes, King James's street, Tenements, Claxtons, E. side of High street S. of Sunderland road, Hind's

No. 3.		No. 8.	
Barn Close:—		Ellison Street, South Side	1
Mulgrave Terrace, West	2	King William Street	1
Victoria Street (six in cellars),		Paxton's Yard	4
West Side	7	Gordon's Yard	3
William Street	5	Easton Court	2
Pollock Street	1	Boroughholders' Yard	2
	15	Taylor's Yard	2
	—	Marshall's Yard	2
	—	Providence Place, West Street	1
No. 4.			18
Hall Terrace, Union Row	1	No. 9.	—
Hovel near New Tollgate	1	Hillgate, North Side, going East:—	
Saltwell Terrace	1	Chapman's Yard	3
Low Team	5	Norris's Buildings	1
	—	Near Vinegar Factory	1
	8	Opposite Price's Buildings	1
Four died in this district, in the		Sugarhouse Lane	1
union-workhouse, who had been		Elsewhere	1
removed thither from other parts		East Street, East Side	4
of the town.		Quarry Field	2
			14
No. 5.		No. 10.	—
Pipewellgate and its Banks, South Side,		Old Engine	2
going West:—		New Gateshead	14
Bankwell Stairs	2	Saltmeadows	5
Blue Bell Entry	3	Saltmeadows Terrace	3
Thompson's Stairs	1	Houses near Gateshead Ironworks...	4
Thompson's Entry	4	Shearlegs	1
Blacksmith's Stairs	2	Blackwall	2
Clump of Buildings on the Banks,		Tyne Main	1
second West of High Level Bridge		Friars Goose	1
Ditto, first ditto	1		33
Pitman's Entry	2	No. 11.	—
Scott's Row and Buildings	3	Park Lane	3
Bage's Entry	1	New Streets near Trinity Chapel:—	
Veatch's Buildings	9	Trinity Street	4
Providence Place	1	Riddell Street	4
Bowl Alley	2	Clavering Street	3
Prockter's Buildings	3	Hopper Street	1
Police Cottages	2	Nuns Lane	6
	38	No. 100, High Street	1
	—	No. 98-99, High Street	1
No. 6.		Leonard's Court	15
George and Dragon Yard	1	No. 92, High Street	1
Bottle Bank, No. 39	1	Union Lane	1
Thompson's Yard	1	St. John's Lane	2
Hawk Entry	3		42
Dixon's Yard	2	No. 12.	—
Dobson's Yard	1	Park Street	7
Bird in Bush Yard	2	Lee's Court	1
Smith's Yard	4	No. 73, High Street	1
Sun Yard	4	Lister's Yard and Buildings, &c. ...	14
Stobbs's Yard	2	Charlton's Yard	1
The Island	6	Low Lister's Yard	1
	—	Crutchy Tom's Stairs	1
No. 7.		Easton Street, South Side	1
Abbot's Buildings	2	S. W. corner of Oakwellgate Chare...	1
Swinburne Place	1	Head of Oakwellgate, behind the	
Nelson Street (three in cellars)	6	last-named premises	2
Lambton Terrace	3	East Street, West Side	2
Innis's Yard	1		32
Ellison Yard and Square	7		
Ellison Street, North Side	1		
	21		

No. 13.		Garden Street	4
Oakwellgate, West Side :—		Thynn's Yard	3
Oakwellgate Chare, North Side ...	3	Hymers's Buildings (in a yard) ...	2
Woolston's Buildings	1	Near ditto	1
Orrick's Yard	2		33
Thompson's Yard	2	No. 16.	
Bell's Yard	4	Near the Old Tollgate, West of	
Gillender's Entry	1	Walker Terrace	
Hymers's Court	1	No. 17.	
Pipehouse Entry	1	Mount Pleasant	2
Near ditto	1	Cramer Dykes	2
Wake's Yard (East Bailey Chare)..	2	St. Edmund's Place	2
Errington's Yard	2		6
Near Cannon Street	1	No. 18.	
Cannon Street :—	2	Powell's Yard, Busy Burn	2
Hay or Guthrie's Yard	1	Grahamsley Street	3
Elsewhere	1	Charles Street	2
Church Street :—	1	Charles Square	1
Brandy Vaults	1	Parkin's Yard	1
Near ditto	1	Mould's Yard	1
	26	Jackson Street, South Side	3
No. 14.		Back Lane, nearly opposite Brewery	
Church Street, North of Church		Field	1
Stairs	3		14
Church Walk	13	No. 19.	
Sugarhouse Bank	2	Low Fell, East of New Durham Road	
Hillgate and its Banks, North Side :—			9
Price's Buildings	7	No. 20.	
Dunn's Buildings	6	Low Fell, West	
Cummins's Buildings	1		3
Bertram's Buildings	7	No. 21.	
	39	Wrekenton	
No. 15.			1
Easton Street, North Side	5	No. 22.	
Easton Place	2	Sheriff Hill, East of Old Durham	
Oakwellgate, East Side :—		Road	
Old Palace	2		2
Pit Yard	5	No. 23.	
Oakwellgate Lane	7	Sheriff Hill, West	
Redhead's Yard	3		4

In 1851, the cholera district of Pipewellgate, and the adjacent banks, courts, &c., comprehending that part of the town which lies on the slope north of Half Moon-lane, and West of High-street, Church-street, and Bridge-street, had a population as under. With the numbers is given the mortality by choleraic disease in 1853.

	Deaths.	Houses.	Families.	Individuals.
Pipewellgate, North Side	5	30	59	282
—, South Side to Ward-				
man's Stairs West, and Half				
Moon-lane East	38	190	263	1406
Rabbit-banks :—				
Smith's cottages, &c.	4			
Prockter's - buildings (portion				
West of Wardman's-stairs) ...	2			
	6	99	99	501
Courts and yards of High-street,				
Bottle-bank, and Bridge-street...	21	84	185	907
The Island	6	26	75	321
Total	76	429	681	3417

One of the Pipewellgate lodging-houses harboured, on the night of the census, 28 men and 26 women, the inmates presenting the following human varieties :—

Scotland	18
England	14
Ireland	13
Germany	1
Russia	1
East Indies	1
Total.....	48

There were large houses in Hillgate still more populous :—

	Families.	Inmates.
1.	16	71
2.	13	49
3.	12	47
4.	11	48

Thus, in four houses there were dwelling 215 persons—a larger population than that of the union workhouse. A fifth lodging house in Hillgate, kept by a West Indian, was occupied by 41 persons, 23 of whom were Irish.

Further East, at the Saltmeadows, where several deaths occurred from cholera in 1853, there were 61 families, comprising 311 persons, occupying 26 houses.

At the time of the outbreak, it is probable that, all our manufactures enjoying unexampled prosperity, the town was even more crowded than in 1851, and our working population in the receipt of large wages, too frequently not over well spent.

One of the most overcrowded localities in Gateshead is Leonard's-court, named in the parish register of 1832 "Leonard's Garden." In that year it contributed but a single death to the cholera mortality. In 1849, it produced 4 deaths. The mortality rose to 15 in 1853, or nearly one death for every house. The census of 1851 gives the following return :—

Houses.....	20
Families	64
Individuals :—	
English	170
Scotch	20
Irish	148
Welsh	1
Others	3
	—342

One of the two "oldest inhabitants" of Gateshead (each being 97 years of age) was discovered by the enumerators of 1851 in Leonard's-court—a Scotchwoman.

The census of Victoria-street, specially taken in 1853, is reported in a tabular form on the other side of the leaf, and is followed by chronological tables of the mortality in the three epidemics.

CENSUS of VICTORIA-STREET, taken October 25, 1853, the Houses mostly consisting of Six Rooms (two of them Cellars); with a Statement of the Mortality during the Epidemic.

<i>East Side of the Street.</i>					Inhabitants of the Street at the Outbreak of the Epidemic who died within 26 days.	
Number of House.	Families.	Persons.	Empty Rooms.	Deaths.		
1.	5	15	0	0	John Arkle, Sept. 15. Edward Austin, Sept. 18.	
2.	4	19	1	0		
3.	4	17	0	0		
4.	3	14	1	0		
5.	4	11	0	0		
6.	2	10	3	2		
7.	4	21	0	0		
8.	3	18	2	0		
8 ¹ / ₂ .	1	4	0	0		
9.	6	21	0	0		
10.	4	14	1	2	Frank Mackenzie, Sept. 9, (in a cellar). Elizabeth Hunter, Sept. 18. Robert Dixon, Sept. 22.	
11.	4	29	0	1	Ann, John, and Bridget M'Rae, Sept. 16, 17, 18, (in a cellar).	
12.	6	27	0	0		
13.	5	24	0	0		
14.	8	32	0	3		
15.	2	13	0	0	Mary Ann Philipson, Sept. 21, (in a cellar).	
16.	2	7	0	0		
<i>West Side.</i>						
20.	2	10	0	1		
21.	4	21	0	0		
22.	0	0	6	0		
23.	4	16	0	0		
24.	6	22	0	2		
25.	5	15	1	1		
26.	6	25	0	1		
27.	4	25	0	3		
28.	5	23	0	1		
29.	3	14	1	0		
30.	3	9	1	0		
31.	2	4	} No cellars.			
32.	1	3				
33.	2	5				
	114	488	17	17		

The West side of Victoria-street, Mulgrave-terrace West, and William-street, form a triangle enclosing a cow-byre, &c., which the Borough Surveyor, in a report of October 4, 1852, brought under the consideration of the Local Board of Health. "The stench arising from the midden connected therewith," he said, "is such as to call forth the most bitter complaints;" and he recommended that a notice be served upon the occupier of the cow-house for its removal. The Board resolved that the occupier should "retain his cow-house for the present, but notice to be given to him to remove the refuse every day." When the cholera appeared, an inhabitant of the terrace again brought the nuisance before the Board, and the Surveyor pronounced it to be "a pest to the neighbourhood, which ought to be entirely removed." In the triangle of which it is the nucleus, 16 of the inhabitants died during the epidemic.

AGES OF THE VICTIMS.

Died in the	Living in 1851.	1832. Ch.	1849. Ch. Di.	1853. Ch. Di.	Died in the	Living in 1851.	1832. Ch.	1849. Ch. Di.	1853. Ch. Di.
1st yr.	750	0	0 6	5 16	51st yr.	412	6	3 0	10 0
2d	963	6	10 2	15 12	52d	225	4	1 0	2 0
3d	600	5	3 0	24 5	53d	200	2	0 0	3 0
4th	775	5	4 1	13 1	54th	112	5	6 0	7 0
5th	625	4	2 2	8 0	55th	125	5	4 0	1 0
6th	550	4	3 0	14 1	56th	163	5	1 0	0 0
7th	675	2	6 0	2 1	57th	100	5	1 0	4 0
8th	637	3	1 0	5 2	58th	112	3	2 0	1 0
9th	525	1	1 0	6 0	59th	62	5	3 0	2 0
10th	600	1	1 1	1 0	60th	75	4	5 1	4 0
11th	525	0	1 0	3 1	61st	187	3	3 1	6 0
12th	525	3	0 0	0 0	62d	113	0	2 0	3 0
13th	625	2	1 0	1 0	63d	62	3	1 0	3 0
14th	525	1	0 0	3 0	64th	125	3	1 0	5 0
15th	600	5	1 0	1 0	65th	125	2	1 0	5 0
16th	588	1	2 0	3 0	66th	200	2	3 0	1 1
17th	462	0	0 0	1 0	67th	113	2	0 0	3 0
18th	525	0	1 0	5 0	68th	100	1	2 0	3 0
19th	562	2	2 0	2 0	69th	50	3	0 0	2 0
20th	325	3	1 0	4 0	70th	75	2	0 0	4 0
21st	513	1	1 0	3 0	71st	87	0	0 0	0 0
22d	575	3	4 0	3 0	72d	38	2	0 0	4 0
23d	550	1	2 0	2 0	73d	75	2	1 0	4 0
24th	425	1	3 0	6 0	74th	37	3	1 0	1 1
25th	313	2	1 0	3 0	75th	12	2	1 0	1 1
26th	412	5	1 0	6 1	76th	13	1	1 0	3 0
27th	488	2	1 0	7 0	77th	25	0	5 0	0 0
28th	425	0	3 0	12 1	78th	12	0	2 0	2 0
29th	412	3	4 0	9 0	79th	37	1	0 0	1 0
30th	253	3	2 0	4 0	80th	12	0	1 0	3 0
31st	612	6	5 0	9 0	81st	0	1	0 0	1 0
32d	313	1	5 0	5 0	82d	50	2	0 0	0 0
33d	325	2	4 1	3 0	83d	0	0	1 0	0 0
34th	212	1	3 0	6 0	84th	12	0	0 1	0 0
35th	400	2	2 0	13 0	85th	13	1	0 0	1 1
36th	500	3	5 0	4 0	86th	0	2	0 1	0 0
37th	375	2	1 0	7 0	87th	0	0	0 0	0 0
38th	225	5	3 0	5 0	88th	0	0	0 0	0 0
39th	262	1	2 0	8 0	89th	0	0	0 0	0 0
40th	175	2	1 0	3 0	90th	12	0	0 0	0 1
41st	412	11	4 0	16 0	91st	12	0	0 0	0 0
42d	275	3	3 0	1 0	92d	0	0	0 0	0 0
43d	312	4	2 0	4 0	93d	0	0	0 0	0 0
44th	263	5	1 0	6 0	94th	12	0	0 0	0 0
45th	162	2	5 0	5 0	95th	0	0	0 0	0 0
46th	300	8	0 1	5 0	96th	0	0	0 0	0 0
47th	200	5	1 0	10 0	97th	0	0	0 0	0 0
48th	187	4	0 0	4 0	98th	0	0	0 0	0 0
49th	225	6	3 0	4 0	99th	0	0	0 0	0 0
50th	225	1	3 0	8 0	100th	12	1	0 0	0 0
No age named						0	8	1 0	0 0
						25,495	234	168 18	387 46

The ages contained in this table are derived from the Parish Registers of Burials in 1831-32, and the Register of Deaths in 1849 and 1853.

The column showing the number of persons living at different ages in 1851 is partly conjectural, being founded upon the actual numbers so living in that year in three "enumeration districts," namely, Wrekenton, Wickham, and the Oakwellgate-and-Garden-Street district).

DEATHS IN EACH DECADE.

Decade.	Living in 1851.*	Mortality of the Three Epidemics.						
		1.		2.			3.	
		c.	c.	d.	tot.	c.	d.	tot.
First	6,700	31	31	11	42	93	38	131
Second	5,262	17	9	1	10	23	1	24
Third	4,366	21	22	0	22	55	2	57
Fourth	3,399	25	31	1	32	63	0	63
Fifth	2,561	49	22	1	23	63	0	63
Sixth	1,586	44	26	1	27	34	0	34
Seventh	1,158	21	13	1	14	35	1	36
Eighth	340	11	12	0	12	19	2	21
Ninth	87	6	1	2	3	2	1	3
Tenth	36	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Estimated population ...	25,495	226†	167‡	18	185	387	46	433
Actual population	24,805	* Ascertained as in preceding table.						
Population in 1841	19,505	† Wanting 8, no age given.						
Population in 1831	15,177	‡ Wanting 1, no age given.						

The writer has now closed his record of the *mortality* of the three cholera epidemics of Gateshead. The proportion which it bore to the amount of *sickness*, it is impossible to state, there being no complete record of "cases." The returns, however, made by Mr. Wilson, the medical officer of the northern (or town) district, may be taken as some measure of the prevalence of the visitation, and of its fatal character. Subdividing his district into seven sections, he made the following report thereon, commencing with the 4th of September (the date of his first case), and ending with the 19th of October. The initials signify—"Diarrhœa," "Approaching Cholera" and "Cholera."

WEST SIDE OF HIGH-STREET.		D.	A.C.	C.
Barn Close district	207	5	29	
South of Railway Bridge	168	20	19	
North of Railway Bridge, including Pipewellgate	233	16	68	
EAST SIDE OF HIGH-STREET.				
East of Hillgate and East-street, including the South Shore and New Gateshead	213	12	15	
South of Oakwellgate-chare	287	18	34	
North of Oakwellgate-chare to Cannon-street, including Oakwellgate	205	23	47	
Hillgate and Churchwalk district	190	9	49	
Cases of diarrhœa prior to September 14, not recorded in sections	127			
Total cases	1630	103	261	
Deaths	6	0	159	

Mr. Wilson reported, that the mortality was confined, almost without exception, to the cases enumerated in the third column, which had assumed the form of malignant cholera before medical aid was obtained, and of which more than one-half ended in death.

By this destructive visitation, 106 husbands were deprived of their wives in 51 days. How many wives lost their husbands—how many children their parents—the records do not say; nor is it possible to estimate, to the full extent, how heavily the pecuniary resources of the community were taxed by the epidemic of 1853—a calamity arising from causes which are removable—which lessen the enjoyment and shorten the duration of human life, and are at once our punishment and our reproach.

CHESTER-LE-STREET UNION.

THE epidemic of 1849 having raged on the boundary-line between Gateshead and Lamesley, at Wrekenton and Eighton Banks, the extent of the mortality on both sides has been obtained, and is stated on page 7. The facts of the rural epidemic are instructive.

Lamesley is a member of the poor-law union of Chester-le-Street, which lies southward of Gateshead, and is intersected by the high road from this place to the city of Durham. The whole union comprises the parish of Washington, the parish of Chester-le-Street, and three of the fifteen townships constituting the parish of Houghton-le-Spring. Its area in statute acres is 33,079; and in 1851 it had a population of 20,907 persons, chiefly engaged in mining and agriculture. 135 of the inhabitants died of cholera and 7 of diarrhoea in 1849, in the following districts of the union:—the one marked thus (*) being in Washington—thus (†) in Houghton—and the remainder in Chester:—

Population, 1851.	Township or Chapelry.	Date of First Death.	Date of Last Death.	DIED.		
				c.	d.	tot.
2,051	*Usworth	28 January	20 February	6	0	6
1,614	Harraton	2 February	15 October...	11	0	11
1,914	Lamesley	3 August ...	14 " ...	46	1	47
747	Waldridge	6 " ...	23 September	3	0	3
1,758	Witton Gilbert	12 " ...	8 October ...	6	0	6
891	†Bourn Moor	27 " ...	14 September	31	1	32
2,580	Chester-le-Street ...	28 " ...	24 October...	25	4	29
1,730	Great Lumley	1 September	11 September	1	1	2
300	Ouston	5 " ...	5 " ...	1	0	1
337	Little Lumley	6 " ...	6 " ...	1	0	1
348	Edmonsley	27 " ...	27 " ...	1	0	1
1,823	Birtley	9 October ...	17 October...	3	0	3
16,103				135	7	142

The Harraton deaths occurred—6 in February at the hamlets of Harraton and Fatfield, and 5 in October at Peel's Houses.

The Lamesley deaths occurred—4 in August, up to and including the 25th; and 42 in September, from the 9th to the 27th; all at Eighton Banks, with the exception of the last, the death of a tramp at Millgreen Cottage. The solitary death from diarrhoea took place on the 14th of October, when the epidemic had passed away.

It has been seen that Gateshead, urban and rural, with 24,805 inhabitants in 1851, unequally spread over an area of 3,255 acres, lost 185 men, women, and children, in 1849, by cholera and diarrhoea.

In the adjoining union of Chester-le-Street, comprising an area ten times more extensive, 142 died out of 20,907, inhabiting 4,121 houses.

Thus the rate of mortality was little greater in the parish of Gateshead than in the union of Chester; nor is the sanitary condition of our villages much better than that of our towns.

"A TRAVELLER UNDERGROUND," who has written of "Our Coal and Our Coal Pits, the People in them and the Scenes around them,"

describing the "pit villages" of Northumberland and Durham, says:—"The space between each two rows of back-doors presents along the centre one long ash-heap and dunghill, generally the playground of the children in summer; with a coal-heap, and often a pigsty, at the side of each door. There are no conveniences."

In one of the mining districts here referred to, most severely visited by the epidemic of 1849, the compiler of these statistics asked a pitman's wife to what cause she ascribed the epidemic. She was as modest in her judgment as the most candid of medical men, confessing her perfect ignorance of its primary origin; but this, she said, she knew, that the cleanest cottages were not exempt from attack. A neighbour, however, remarked, that while this was so, conveniences were uncommon; and that, in a neighbouring village, where the cholera was peculiarly prevalent and fatal, there was not a single privy. The epidemic, she added, broke out in the township immediately on the opening of a very filthy drain.

These facts are important, as evidence that the cholera is not a disease of our large towns alone, or even principally, but is engendered also in our villages, and with equally destructive consequences. Bourn Moor and Lamesley were as severely scourged in 1849, as were Newcastle and Gateshead in any of the three epidemics. The dense population surrounding the Norman keep of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, was but three times more fatally ravaged than the sparse population of the whole union of Chester-le-Street, surrounding the fair baronial halls of Ravensworth, and Lambton, and Lumley. Everywhere there is room for reform. While these pages are passing through the press, Matthias Dunn, Esq., who, as Government Inspector of Mines, has charge of the mining district now under consideration, is driven, by the unwholesome condition of his private residence in St. Mary's-terrace, on the outskirts of Newcastle, to apply to the Borough Magistrates for redress, the atmosphere of his house being poisoned by "an incessant discharge of noxious gases" from "branch drains." "During the cholera," says Mr. Dunn, "there were 9 deaths out of 120 people in the neighbourhood."* The Stipendiary Magistrate can only admit that "something should be done," and express his regret that he has not the power, and others have not the will, to do it. The helpless Government Inspector retires with the remark:—"There will be plenty of cry when the cholera reappears."

* Men talk of the "better parts" of our towns—and, looking only at the surface of things, when they see epidemics scourging such localities, deny the connection between fever and filth, pestilence and poison. Such revelations, therefore, as Mr. Dunn has so wisely made in the common ear, are above all price. They tear aside the veil, and force upon public observation the fact that not alone our Sandgates and Pipewellgates, our Cloggers'-entries and our Leonard's-courts, but also our St. Mary's-terraces and our West-streets, our Ridley-villas and our Mulgrave-terraces, however fair their exterior, are far from being, within, in a perfect sanitary condition. Less crowded than the more neglected localities—inhabited by persons of ampler means and superior habits—epidemic influences have not the same sway and power upon them; but they do suffer, if to a less extent, from pestilential diseases, and also from excessive mortality.—*Gateshead Observer* (May 6, 1854).

MORTALITY OF THE FIRST EPIDEMIC, (1831-32)

[illegible]

* The Cholera Hospital of 1832 was established at Powell's Almshouses, in High-street. It will be seen that, in some few instances, the parish-register states whence the persons buried had been brought to the hospital.

† "Christian Olsen, a Norwegian sailor."—*St. Mary's Register*.

† "Andreas Colson, a Norwegian sailor."—*Ibid.*

MORTALITY OF THE THIRD EPIDEMIC, (1853).

Of those marked (*), one died from Diarrhoea. Thus (‡), in the Workhouse Hospital.

W6
P.3451
4.1.297
no 16

MORTALITY OF THE SECOND EPIDEMIC, (1849).

☛ Those marked thus (*) died from Diarrhoea.

[illegible]



